Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Friday 04 Mar 2022 until 23:59 on Saturday 05 Mar 2022

Forecast Issued on Friday 04 Mar 2022 at 03:03

Confidence: Low for rain and hill snow details on Friday with a waving front moving slowly and erratically over the UK. High for mainly dry conditions from Saturday onwards.

Headline for Friday 04 Mar 2022: Outbreaks of rain and hill snow dying out this morning, dry this afternoon. Light winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 04 Mar 2022

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Sleet	Sleet	Cloudy	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)	Clear night
Precipitation probability					
70%	40%	30%	20%	20%	10%

Forecast for Friday 04 Mar 2022

Weather: Rain, with snow above 500 or 600m, heavy for a time in the early hours but lighter by dawn. Outbreaks of rain with snow above 600 or 700m dying out this morning. Becoming mainly dry in the afternoon, some brightness developing across western fells.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Virtually Nil chance overnight and through the morning, becoming 40% in the afternoon then 70% in the evening.

Low cloud and visibility: Snow and extensive low cloud down to 400 or 500m giving very poor visibility at height, often down to tens of metres. Below the cloud, generally hazy, down to a few km in rain. Visibility may slowly improve through the afternoon as cloud slowly lifts with clearer conditions arriving later. Low confidence for any details.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Friday 04 Mar 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	18/21 N	16/19 NW	14/19 NW	14/20 NW	15/20 N	16/20 N	18/23 N
600	14/17 N	13/16 NW	12/18 NW	13/19 NW	11/17 N	11/16 N	13/19 N
300	8/17 NW	8/16 NW	8/17 NW	8/17 NW	5/14 NW	5/12 N	6/15 N
Valley	6/15 N	7/16 NW	7/14 NW	7/15 NW	6/14 NW	5/12 N	7/15 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-1/-7	-1/-7	-0/-6	0/-5	-1/-6	-2/-8	-2/-8
600	1/-4	1/-4	2/-3	3/-2	2/-3	0/-5	-0/-5
300	3/-0	3/-0	5/2	5/3	4/2	2/0	2/-1
Valley	5/3	5/3	7/5	8/5	6/4	5/3	4/2
Freezing Level*	700m	700m	800m	800m	700m	700m	700m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Difficult navigation conditions up in the hills from poor visibility and snow. A gradual improvement from the west this afternoon, western fells faring best.

Forecast for Saturday 05 Mar 2022

Weather: Clear spell and frost overnight. Mainly dry with some sunny spells.

Maximum wind: North 25mph gusts 35mph. Severe wind chill.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 80%.

Low cloud and visibility: Generally good with only small amounts of cloud around 900 metres

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 1 Celsius rising to 7 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 3 Celsius rising to 1 Celsius.
Freezing level: 600m rising to 900m.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Thursday 3 March 2022 Location: Helvellyn summit at 11:00 Full report: Another cloudy day on the fells with rain at all levels and a daytime summit temperature marginally above freezing. Conditions were similar on Wednesday with the result that the remaining snow is both softening and beginning to thaw – but very slowly above 800m where the majority of the remaining snow is located. Patches of snow can be found above 700m in sheltered spots and hollows and on steep north and east facing slopes. Where undisturbed, the snowpack above 800m was mostly firm, sometimes hard and sometimes soft! Where it has been compacted by walkers' boots on popular routes the snow was hard and icy creating an obvious slippery hazard on paths. Walkers out on the highest fells on Friday should note that such ice may lurk beneath some fresh snow which could fall overnight. However, at the time of writing the majority of ground up to, and including, summit level is now free from snow especially on south and west facing aspects. For example hardly any snow was encountered on the Swirrals footpath up Helvellyn (on the west side of the mountain) and that which was present could easily be avoided. At the top of some snow covered north and especially east facing slopes there are some overhangs – ie cornices. Although small, they are weakening and it is a steep drop beneath them, so please keep completely off any such snow covered edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise. Despite the appearance of daffodils in the valleys, the summit windchill (what the temperature feels like) remains below freezing so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots (not trainers) and equipment - including torch, map & compass and the ability to use them - are all essential for those going onto the fells. For those doing routes that necessitate crossing or climbing steep snow slopes – such as Striding and Swirral Edges which both have banks of deep, steep unavoidable snow guarding their exits - an ice axe is essential and crampons must be carried in case hard snow and ice is encountered. Please don't be lulled into a false sense of security by the fact that the crest of Striding Edge is just bare rock! Temperature: plus 1.5 C, Maximum wind speed 26.8 mph, Wind chill: minus 6.0 C, Average wind speed: 16.7 mph.

Issued at: 03:03 on Fri 04 Mar 2022

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